DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 451 164 SP 039 838

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TITLE	Sports in School: The Future of an Institution.
ISBN	ISBN-0-8077-3970-7
PUB DATE	2000-00-00
NOTE	177p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Teachers College Press, P.O. Box 20, Williston, VT 05495-0020 (hardbound: ISBN-0-8077-3971-5, $48; paperback: ISBN-0-8077-3970-7, $19.95). Tel: 800-575-6566 (Toll Free); Web site: http://www.teacherscollegepress.com.
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Collected Works - General (020) -- Opinion Papers (120)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Academic Achievement; Administrators; Age Differences; *Athletic Coaches; *Athletics; College Athletics; Elementary Secondary Education; Equal Education; Females; Gender Issues; Higher Education; Physical Fitness; Role Models; Sex Differences; Social Values
IDENTIFIERS	Character Development

ABSTRACT

This collection of essays challenges the accepted notion that sports necessarily promote character development, physical fitness, and positive educational and social values. Contributing authors are leading authorities, coaches, athletic directors, and varsity and professional players. The essays examine the true relationship of sports and schooling. There are 13 chapters in 4 parts. Part 1, "The Educational Benefits of Sport: Myth or Reality?" includes: (1) "Is Your Child Too Young for Youth Sports or Is Your Adult Too Old?" (Bob Bigelow); (2) "Do Sports Build Character?" (Sharon K. Stoll and Jennifer M. Beller); (3) "Role Model: A Critical Assessment of the Application of the Term to Athletes" (Todd W. Crosset); and (4) "College Athletics as Good Business?" (John R. Gerdy). Part 2, "The Preparation of Coaches and Administrators," includes: (5) "Who's Coaching the Coaches?" (Michael A. Clark) and (6) "The Education of Sports Administrators" (Andrew Kreutzer). Part 3, "Race and Gender in Sport," includes (7) "Race in Athletics: Integration or Isolation?" (Derrick Gragg); (8) "The Myth of Athletics and Educational Opportunity" (Darren Bilberry); and (9) "Women in Sports: Seeking Balance" (Darlene Bailey). Part 4, "Athletics and Education: A Good Investment?" includes: (10) "Athletics and the Higher Education Marketplace" (Cynthia M. Patterson); (11) "Want Value for Education Dollars? Try Music!" (John R. Gerdy); (12) "The Rise of American Sport and the Decline of American Culture" (Robert W. McCabe); and (13) "The Pedestals are Vacant" (Bill Curry). (SM)

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